Arts v. 1.

ARTS MASTERPIECE OR THE PENs GORY

A COPY BOOK

Set forth in the most legible Hands Extant

With excellent Directions for the exact and speedie writing of every Hand

Invented Written & Engraven

By a lover of that Noble and Ingenious Science

JAMES SEAMER

Sold by Samuel Keble at the Turks head in Fleet Street.

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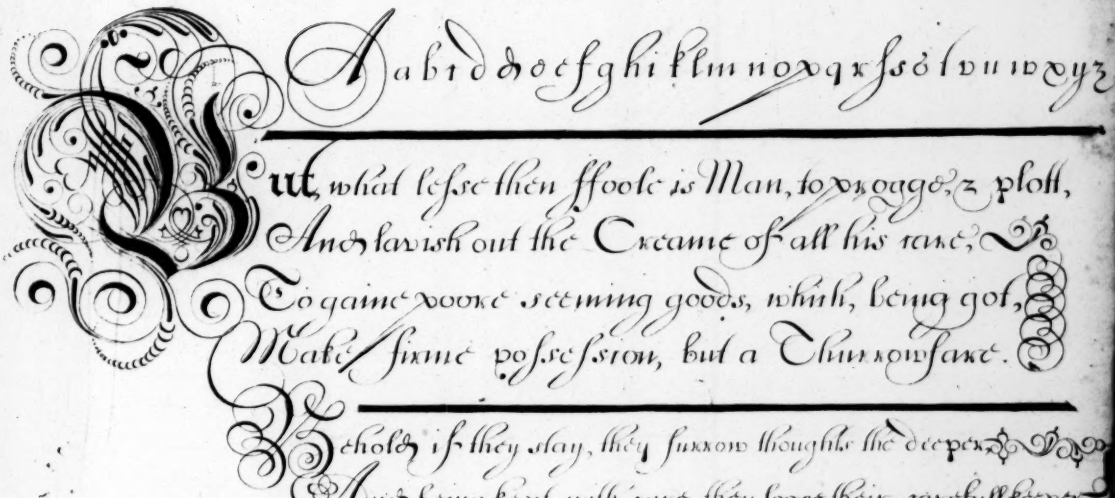
SEAMER

What's great Goliahs Spear, the sevenfold Shield,
Scanderbegs Sword, to one who cannot wield
Such weapons? Or, what means a well-cut Quill
In th' untaught hand of him thats void of Skill?

Admire nothing for or in it selfe;
but admire all things in God,
and God in all things, who is the
Fountaine of all admirable things.

Seamer.

Due Proportion is the Life of Art;
Which strive to keep, in all, and every part:



A a b i d d e e f g h i k l m n o p q r s s o t v u w x y z

But, what lesse then ffoole is Man, to progge, z plott,
And lavish out the Creame of all his care,
To gaine poore seeming goods, which, being got,
Make firme possession, but a Thurrowfare.

Beholde if they stay, they furrow thoughts the deeper,
And being kept with care, they loose their carefull keeper.

A b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r ſ t v w x y z &
Earth walketh on the earth, glistring like gold,
Earth geeth to the earth, sooner then it would:
Earth buildeth on the earth, Castles & Towers,
Earth sayeth to the earth, all shall bee ours:
Seamer:
Except Repentance quickly doth ensue &
Sinnes lazie ofspring will their birth-time rue.

Feare is the Primmer of a Gamsters skill;
Who feares not Bad, stands most unarm'd to Ill:
The Ill that's wisely fear'd, is safe withstood;
And feare of Bad is the best foyle to Good

I. S.

Leake not the Rocks or worlds imperious waves
Thou climbst a Rock (my soule) a Rock that saves.

A B C D E F G H I K L M N O P Q R S T U W X Y Z

Here the world's a Labrinth, whose anfractious wayes
Are all compos'd of Rubs, and crook'd Meanders
Nor esting here; Hee's hurried back that stayes
A thought, And he that goes unguided wanders.

Her way is dark; her path untrod, unev'n; qxz
So hard's the way from earth, so hard's ye way to Heav'n

JAMES SEAMER

Learning is the only ornament and pretious jewell of mans life, without which no man can ever attaine vnto any honour, or preferment in a good comon wealth, Learne therfore now in thy tender yeares profitable things.

Let thy inquisitive minde great Excellency finde
To prize it be inclin'd of whatsoever kinde.

A a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r r s t v w x y z

A B C D E F F G H I J K L M N O
P Q R S T V W W X Y Z Z

8

A a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r s t v u m x y z &

O you Sonnes of Adam, you covetous Generation, what have you to doe with earthly Riches, which are neither True, nor yours, Gold and Silver are reall earth red, and white, In Short, if they be yours, Carry them with you. &

O who would trust this world, or prize what's in it,
That gives and takes, and Chops, and Changes every minit!

Two severall Loves built two severall Cities; The love of God builds a Jerusalem; The love of the world builds a Babylon: Let every one enquire of himselfe what he loves, and hee shall resolve himselfe, of whence hee is a Citizen.

The World's a Babylon, he that would endeavor,
To find the way to Rest, must seek the way to leave her.

SEMER

Permit the passion of my holy Rage,
Releas my soule from this terrestriall Cage.
Aabcdefghiklmnopqrsststvuwxyz&c

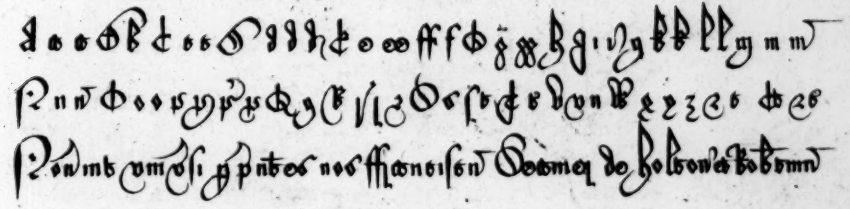
Paules Midnight voice prevail'd; his musicks thunder
Vnhing'd the prison doores; split boults in sunder
And sitst thou here? and hang'st the feble wing?
And whin'st to bee enlarg'd; Soule, learne to sing:

Seamer.

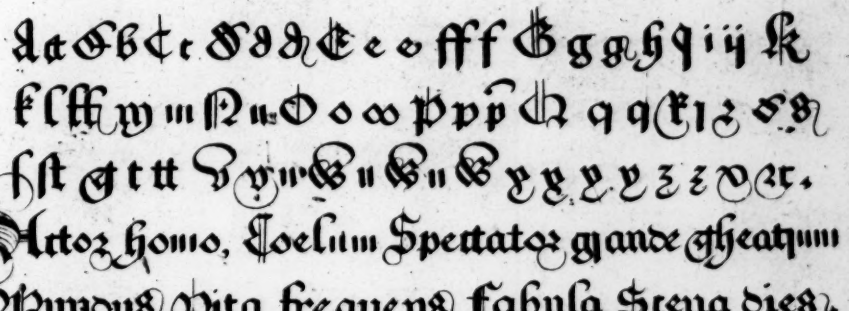
Abundance of Honour
is gained by Industrie.

Scamer. S. Aabcdeffghiklm
nopqrstvwxyz.

Court



Chancery



The curious Penman, having trim'd his Page
With the dead Language of his dabled Quill,
Lets fall a heedlesse drop, then, in a Rage,
Cashieres the fruits of his unlucky skill:
Ev'n so my pregnant soule in th'infant bud
Of her best thoughts, showers down a Cole-black flood
Of unadvised Ills, and cancels all her Good.

SAMUEL

To make a PEN.

HAving a Pen-knife with a smooth, thin, sharp edge, take the first or second Quill of a Goose wing, and scrape it; then hold it in your left hand with the Feather end from you, and beginning even in the Back, cut a small piece off sloping: then, to make a slit, enter the Knife in the middle of the first cut, put in a Quill, and force it up so far as you desire the slit should be in length; which done, cut a piece sloping away from the other side above the slit, and fashion the Nib, by cutting both the sides equally down; then place the Nib on the nail of your left-hand Thumb, and to end it, draw the edge into it slanting; and being half through, turn the edge almost down-right, and cut it off.

To hold the Pen.

HOld the Pen in the right hand, with the hollow side downward; on the left side place your Thumb, rising in the Joynt; on the right side your middle finger, near half an inch from the end of the Nib, and your fore-finger on the top, a small distance from your Thumb.

To sit to Write.

CHuse a fore-right-light, or one that comes on the left hand: Let the Board on which you write be sloping; lay your Book strait before you; sit upright, bearing your Body from the Board: Hold your head up the distance of a span from the Paper; when you are Writing, turn not your head one way or other, but look right forward: draw in your right Elbow; turn your hand outward, and bear it lightly; gripe not the Pen too hard: with your left hand stay the Paper.

Necessaries for Writing.

LEt your Ink be thin, such as may freely run from the Pen. Let the Paper which you write on be white, fine, and well gumm'd. For dispatch, procure a round Ruler; for certainty, a flat Ruler. At your first Writing rule double Lines with a Quill cut forked the depth of your intended Letters, or a Black-lead Pen: Rub your Paper lightly with Gum Sandrick, beaten fine, and tyed up in a Linnen Cloth; which makes the Paper bear Ink, and the Pen run smooth.

Directions for the ſecond and third leaf, marked 2 and 3.

THis firſt leaf contains the Breaks of all the ſmall ſet Secretary Letters, and an Alphabet of Capital Letters, proper to the ſmall Letters on this leaf, and the third marked with a figure of 3. This ſet Hand, though it be not much uſed, except for Indentures, Records, Deeds, *&c.* Yet becauſe it is a good ground for other Hands, we preſent you with it firſt.

In the imitation of this and the following Copy, with a Quill cut forked Rule double lines, to keep the Letters even at head and foot: Then, if you think fit, pounce you Paper; and having a well-cut Quill, whoſe Nib may agree with the breadth of down-right ſtroaks, begin and imitate the (*a*) and diligently obſerve, as in this, ſo in all Letters, what parts require a ſmall hair ſtroak, and thoſe make lightly with the edge of the Pen; and where full ſtroaks are required, apply the flat Nib of the Pen.

When you can make each Letter well by their parts or breaks, Rule twenty four lines, and fill the firſt line with (*a*,) the ſecond with (*b*,) *&c.* and be ſure to make one Letter perfectly, before you proceed to another. Thus if you make but two Letters well in a day, you will write the whole Alphabet in two Weeks compleat.

Directions for the fourth Leaf. 4.

THe Directions for the third Leaf being well obſerved, may ſerve for this. Both for this and other hands are, that the diſtance from one Letter to another in words, muſt be ſo much as the breadth of the ſmall (*n*,) and the diſtance from one word to another muſt be ſo much as the breadth of the ſmall (*o*,) the *Minims*; as namely, the ſtroaks of the (*m*,) (*n*,) *&c.* And the Body ſtroaks of the long Letters muſt ſtand, or lye, all one way in a piece of Writing, carefully obſerving the depths, diſtances, full and ſmall of every Letter.

Note, that this hand agreeth ſo near with that on the 8 leaf, that theſe Directions may ſerve for both.

Directions for the mixt Hands on the 5th, 6th, and 7th. Leaves.

SInce theſe Hands wholly depends one upon another, I would adviſe you to a Pen with an even Nib, a long ſlit, and not too hard: Rule double lines, as is directed at the beginning,

at

at a fit diſtance. Keep a waſte Paper under your hand, whereon to try every Letter, before you write it fair: at the firſt write ſlowly and carefully; diligently obſerve the proportion and agreements of Letters.

In their compaſſing; as the *a*, *b*, *d*, *g*, *o*, *p*, *q*, &c. which muſt be made with equal whites.

In their depths and lengths, keep them even at head and foot.

Keep the Stems of all Letters to an equal height.

Let all incline one way, to the right or left.

In making the heads of long Letters, begin them on the left ſide; then turn your Pen to a flat, and draw it down ſmoothly on the right ſide. Theſe Rules well obſerved, will be ſufficient for all theſe three leaves; therefore I ſhall proceed to give you.

Directions for the Roman Hand on the 9th and 10th Leaves.

WHen double lines are ruled, and every thing ready with a Pen of an indifferent ſize well cut, firſt imitate the ſmall (*l*,) (*n*,) and (*o*,) ſo long, till you can make them well; then proceed to make the ſmall Letters that bear reſemblance one to another, as the *i*, *e*, *a*, *o*, *g*, *q*, *d*; then the *b*, *d*, *f*, *h*, *k*, *l*, and *t*: which Stems, or Body-ſtroaks, keep of an equal height.

Directions for Italian Hand on the 11th Leaf.

SInce theſe hands depends wholly on the form of an Oval, I would adviſe you to uſe your hand to the making of larger and leſſer Ovals; and muſt be written with a Pen that hath a clear long ſlit, and a long ſmall Nib, and the hand in writing hereof muſt be born lightly and freely. In your imitation, obſerve the Rule for the likeneſs of Letters delivered for the *Roman*. In joyning, you muſt unite all ſuch Letters as will naturally joyn, by ſmall hair-ſtroaks drawn with the left corner of the Pen, and imitate the Copy.

Directions for the Text Hand.

FIt the Mib of your Pen to the breadth of their ſtroaks, the Breaks of the ſet-hand Letters on the ſecond leaf will inform you how each Letter in the making is begun, continued, and finiſhed; then on thick Paper rule double lines, according to the ſize of the hand, and make ſo

many

many ſtrokes thereon, one by another, about the diſtance of thoſe in the (*n*) till you can make them exactly down, or perpendicular, and draw the Pen evenly down upon a flat Nib; when you can produce ſuch ſtrokes cleaverly, you have half got the Maſtery of the ſmall Letters. Obſerve to bring the *Minims*, and the ſtrokes of the (*b*) (*h*) (*k*) (*l*) &c. almoſt down to the line you write on; and taking up the Pen, turn the Nib thereof towards your left hand, and laying it flat, make the ſquare ground ſtrokes of the Letters, and draw their bodies even down, not permitting them to incline to the right hand, or to the left.

Directions for the Court and Chancery Hands on the 13th. Leaf.

A Pen for theſe Hands muſt have the left corner of its Nib ſhorter than the right; it is more tollerable for theſe Hands to incline toward the left, than the right hand, the breadth of the *Minims*, and ſtrokes of the *m*, *n*, and *u*, are the beſt Rules for their diſtances one from another. Such Letters in Court-hand, whoſe Bodies may be conjoyned in the writing of words, muſt not ſtand at a diſtance when *r* follows *o* in a word, a round *r* muſt be made; and when two together follows *o*, the firſt muſt be round, and the laſt long. More might be deliver'd for theſe Hands; but ſince theſe are moſt material, and that the beſt Rules are good Examples, I commend this Leaf to your obſervation and practice, and wiſh you good ſucceſs.

A Receipt for Ink.

POur two Gallons of Rain-water into an Earthen Veſſel that is well Leaded, or Glaz'd within, and infuſe in it two pounds of Gum Arabick, two pounds of them Galls bruiſed, a pound of Copperas, and two ounces of Roch-Allum: ſtir it every Morning with a ſtick, for ten days, and then you may uſe it. You may vary the quantity, obſerving the ſame proportions.

How to write with Gold.

POur a ſmall quantity of Gum water into a Gold ſhell, and make the Gold liquid, by tempering the water and that together with a ſmall new Penſil: Then with a Pen never uſed write therewith; and when your writing is dry, polliſh it with a Wolves or Maſtiff dogs tooth.

FINIS.